

12 November 1959

*Noted @ PC  
12/26/59  
no charges  
made MB  
1-13-60*

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Resume of OCB Luncheon Meeting, 12 November 1959

PRESENT: Mr. Allen, Gen. Cabell, Mr. Gray, Mr. Harr,  
Mr. Irwin, Mr. McCone, Mr. Reinhardt, Mr. Saccio,  
Mr. Scribner, Mr. Smith

1. Meeting of Interagency Working Group on Disarmament

Mr. Gray indicated that a meeting of the Interagency Working Group on Disarmament would be held some time next week and that the DCI would be notified of the exact time, when it is known.

2. Cuban Brochure

The Board then turned to a discussion of the inflammatory brochure in English issued by the Cuban government, which purported to show the casualties and damage inflicted by the alleged bombing raid over Havana. In answer to a question as to what is being done to refute these charges, Mr. Allen said that he was not aware of any USIA plans in this connection. [REDACTED]

25X1  
25X1

3. Release of the Movie "On the Beach"

The next subject was the forthcoming release of the motion picture "On the Beach," based on the novel by Nevil Shute of the same name. It was pointed out that the theme of this story, which deals with the ultimate destruction of all life in the world as the result of the use of nuclear weapons, poses psychological difficulties for the U.S. in view of the dependence in its current strategic plans on the availability of such weapons. It was felt by some members that the U.S. stand regarding the continuance of nuclear tests would also be made more difficult by the world-wide release of this movie.

It was suggested that selected U.S. embassies might be queried as to their ideas on what counteraction, if any, might be taken. Mr. Allen said that the USIA field offices had already been advised that the official line to follow is that the U.S. does not endorse this story. It was felt that the ambassadors should be given a chance to be made aware of the latest USIA guidance before they formulate suggestions for further action.

#### 4. Situation in Panama

Mr. Harr asked whether any contingency planning was under way in connection with the situation in Panama. It was noted that there are a number of operational problems involved in any such planning, most of which concern the Army. It was also noted that the U.S. recognizes that the Panamanians retain residual rights to the Canal Zone and that American tenure is based on a perpetual lease. Some discussion ensued as to the possible advantages of State's publicizing this recognition by the American Government, but no firm decision was reached.

#### 5. MSP Program for Turkey

Mr. Gray told the Board that the Report and Operations Plan for Turkey were scheduled to be discussed at the 18 November meeting and that the Report would presumably be forwarded to the NSC. He said that a problem arises in connection with the MSP Program in Turkey inasmuch as the specific policy guidance regarding force levels for that country expires in FY 1960. Mr. Gray said that some difficulties had arisen as to procedure, in the consideration of these papers by the Board Assistants, having to do largely with whether either the OCB or the NSC should properly concern itself with details of this kind.

The consensus of the Board was that it was not appropriate for either of these bodies to attempt to work out details of military force levels.

#### 6. Overseas Personnel

Mr. Harr noted that the papers submitted to the Board by the principal OCB agencies at its 30 September meeting, having to do with the personnel of these agencies stationed abroad, had been the subject

of a great deal of interagency discussion. He suggested that so many basic problems are reflected in this situation that the papers should perhaps be presented to the President in order to ascertain his views as to possible reductions. Mr. Scribner cautioned that if this were done the matter should be presented to the President in such a manner that he would be likely to react in a positive way toward the problem.

The Board agreed that Mr. Harr should proceed along these lines.

7. Validity of National Intelligence Estimates

Following up the discussion of the previous week's meeting, General Cabell stated that SNIE 100-4-59 and NIE 13-59 had been re-examined and that it was felt that the conclusions were still valid, with particular reference to the situation in the Taiwan Straits.

C. P. CABELL  
General, USAF  
Deputy Director

Distribution:

Orig. - DCI files

1 - DDCI *(Relocated for Cabell)*

1 - DD/P

1 - BA/OCB